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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/926,113	09/04/2001	Noritaka Kusumoto	011119	2411
23850	7590	02/23/2006	EXAMINER	
ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS, HANSON & BROOKS, LLP 1725 K STREET, NW SUITE 1000 WASHINGTON, DC 20006			CHAWAN, VIJAY B	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2654	

DATE MAILED: 02/23/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	09/926,113		KUSUMOTO, NORITAKA	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Vijay B. Chawan		2654	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 September 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-19 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Geilhufe et al., (6,584,439).

As per claim 1, Geilhufe et al., teach a device setting apparatus comprising:

a voice input unit that converts an input voice to a voice signal (Col.9, lines 10-21);

a voice recognition unit that recognizes a voice corresponding to said voice signal converted by said voice input unit (Col.10, lines 50-59);

a storage that stores multiple device setting information associated with a single voice (Col.10, lines 1-10); and,

a setting unit that reads multiple device setting information corresponding to said voice recognized by said voice recognition unit from said storage and performing

multiple device setting for setting an internal or external device state in response to said read multiple device setting information (Col.11, lines 4-60).

As per claim 2, Geilhufe et al., teach the device setting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said setting unit includes an internal device setting unit that performs multiple device setting in said device setting apparatus (Col.11, lines 4-60).

As per claim 3, Geilhufe et al., teaches the device setting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said device setting apparatus is connected with an external device in a bidirectionally communicable state, and said setting unit includes external device setting unit that performs multiple device setting on said external device (Col.11, lines 4-60).

As per claim 4, Geilhufe et al., teach the device setting apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising registration that registers multiple device setting information associated with a new voice in said storage (Col.11, lines 4-60).

As per claim 5, Geilhufe et al., teach the device setting apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said registration unit further includes a display that displays a plurality of words corresponding to a registrable voice, and a selector that selects a word corresponding to a voice to be registered from said plurality of words displayed on said display, and said registration unit registers said word selected word by said selector in said storage in association with multiple device setting information (Col.12, lines 33-55).

As per claim 6, Geilhufe et al., teach the device setting apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said selector further includes a receiver that receives a remote control signal transmitted to said device setting apparatus, and said selector performs selection in response to said remote control signal received by said receiver (Col.11, lines 61-64).

As per claim 7, Geilhufe et al., teach the device setting apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said registration unit further includes, a character display that displays a plurality of characters for forming a plurality of words corresponding to a registrable voice, and a selector that selects a character forming a word corresponding to a voice to be registered from said plurality of characters displayed on said character display, and said registration unit registers said word formed by said character selected by said selector in said storage in association with multiple device setting information (Col.11, lines 4-60).

As per claim 8, Geilhufe et al., teach the device setting apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said selector further includes a receiver a remote control signal transmitted to said device setting apparatus, and said selector perform selection in response to said remote control signal received by said receiver means (Col.11, lines 4-60, Col.11, lines 61-64).

As per claim 9, Geilhufe et al., teach the device setting apparatus according to claim 4, wherein, said registration unit further includes an acquisition unit that acquires multiple device setting information, and a selector that selects multiple device setting information associated with a new voice from said multiple device setting information acquired by said acquisition unit, and, said registration unit registers said multiple device setting information selected by said selector in said storage in association with said new voice (Col.7, line 58– Col.8, line 21)..

As per claim 10, Geilhufe et al., teach the device apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said selector further includes receiver that receives a remote control signal

transmitted to said device setting apparatus, and, said selector performs selection in response to said remote control signal received by said receiver (Col.11, lines 61-64).

As per claim 11, Geilhufe et al., teaches a device setting system comprising a device setting apparatus, and a set device connected with said device setting apparatus in a bidirectionally communicable state (Col.14, lines 2-55), wherein said device setting apparatus includes:

- a voice input unit that converts an input voice to a voice signal (Col.14, lines 15-21);

- a voice recognition unit that recognizes a voice corresponding to said voice signal converted by said voice input unit (Col.14, lines 15-21);

- a storage that stores multiple device setting information associated with a single voice (Col.10, lines 1-10); and,

- a setting unit that reads multiple device setting information corresponding to said voice recognized by said voice recognition unit from said storage unit and performing multiple device setting for setting an internal device state of said set device in response to said read multiple device setting information (Col.11, lines 4-60).

As per claim 12, Geilhufe et al., teach the device setting system according to claim 11, wherein said set device includes a remote control device for remote-controlling said device setting apparatus in a bidirectionally communicable state (Col.14, lines 14-55).

As per claim 13, Geilhufe et al., teach a recording medium recording a device setting program for making a processing unit perform device setting in a device setting

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apparatus having said processing unit, a voice input unit that converts an input voice signal and a storage that stores multiple device setting information associated with a single voice (Col.15, lines 1-13), wherein said device setting program causes said processing unit perform steps of:

recognizing a voice corresponding to said voice signal converted by said voice input unit (Col.14, lines 15-21); and,

reading multiple device setting information corresponding to the recognized said voice from said storage and performing multiple device setting for setting an internal or external device state in response to read said multiple device setting information (Col.11, lines 4-60).

As per claim 14, Geilhufe et al., teach the recording medium recording a device setting program according to claim 13, wherein said setting step includes a step of performing multiple device setting in said device setting apparatus (Col.11, lines 4-60).

As per claim 15, Geilhufe et al., teach the recording medium recording a device setting program according to claim 13, wherein said setting step includes a step of performing multiple device setting on an external device connected with said device setting apparatus in a bidirectionally communicable state (Col.11, lines 4-60).

As per claim 16, Geilhufe et al., teach the recording medium recording a device setting program according to claim 13, wherein said device setting program further causes said processing unit to perform steps of displaying a plurality of words corresponding to a registrable voice and registering a word selected from displayed said

plurality of words in said storage as a new voice in association with multiple device setting information (Col.7, line 58– Col.8, line 21).

As per claim 17, Geilhufe et al., teach the recording medium recording a device setting program according to claim 16, wherein said registering step includes steps of acquiring multiple device setting information and registering multiple device setting information in said storage in association with said new voice (Col.7, line 58– Col.8, line 21).

As per claim 18, Geilhufe et al., teach the recording medium recording a device setting program according to claim 13, wherein said device setting program further causes said processing unit to perform steps of displaying a plurality of characters for forming a plurality of words corresponding to a registrable voice and registering a word formed by a character selected from displayed said plurality of characters in said storage as a new voice in association with multiple device setting information (Col.7, line 58– Col.8, line 21).

As per claim 19, Geilhufe et al., teach the recording medium recording a device setting program according to claim 18, wherein said registering step includes steps of acquiring multiple device setting information and registering said multiple device setting information selected from said acquired said multiple device setting information in said storage in association with said new voice (Col.7, line 58– Col.8, line 21).

As per claim 20, Geilhufe et al., teach a device setting apparatus comprising:
voice input means for converting an input voice to a voice signal (Col.14, lines 15-21);

voice recognition means for recognizing a voice corresponding to said voice signal converted by said voice input means (Col.14, lines 15-21);

storage means for storing multiple device setting information associated with a single voice (Col.10, lines 1-10); and

setting means for reading multiple device setting information corresponding to said voice recognized by said voice recognition means from said storage means and performing multiple device setting an internal or external device state in response to said read multiple device setting information (Col.11, lines 4-60).

As per claim 21 Geilhufe et al., teach, a device setting system comprising:

a device setting apparatus (Col.7, line 58– Col.8, line 21); and

a set device connected with said device setting apparatus in a bidirectionally communicable state, wherein said device setting apparatus includes:

voice input means for converting an input voice to a voice signal (Col.14, lines 15-21);

voice recognition means for recognizing a voice corresponding to said voice signal converted by said voice input means (Col.14, lines 15-21);

storage means for storing multiple device setting information associated with a single voice (Col.10, lines 1-10); and

setting means for reading multiple device setting information corresponding to said voice recognized by said voice recognition means from said storage means and performing multiple device setting an internal or external device state in response to said read multiple device setting information (Col.11, lines 4-60).

As per claim 22, Geilhufe et al., teach a recording a device setting program for making a processing unit perform device setting in a device setting apparatus having said processing unit, voice unit means for converting an input voice to a voice signal and storage means for storing multiple device setting information associated with a single voice, wherein said device setting program causes said processing unit perform steps of:

recognizing a voice corresponding to said voice signal converted by said voice input means (Col.14, lines 15-21), and

reading multiple device setting information corresponding to recognized said voice from said storage means and performing multiple device setting for setting an internal or external device state in response to read said multiple device setting information (Col.11, lines 4-60).

Response to Arguments


3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-22 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vijay B. Chawan whose telephone number is (571) 272-7601. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday Through Friday 6:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richemond Dorvil can be reached on (571) 272-7602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Vijay B. Chawan
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2654

vbc
2/4/06

**VIJAY CHAWAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER**